

Wildly Successful CHAA NER Gathering and Celebration

From Dick Bedard and Deanne Faucheux

In the words of the inimitable Paul DeKeyser, the CHAA NER Gathering and Celebration was “wildly successful!” We agree! What a wonderful time we had! So incredibly grateful to all who joined in the fun at Vanish Farmyards Brewery on September 28. Great venue (thank you, Doug Gaibler!), great weather, and outstanding fellowship. Thanks to all the helping hands who made the event possible – you know who you are and how much your assistance added to the memories made. And, of course, special thanks to the 153 alums who made the effort to attend. Per Steve Wanders’ accounting, twenty-one states were represented, with Oregon and Washington alums winning the prize for the farthest travel.



In addition to the pleasure of seeing old friends, we were also blessed with a few real surprises. Who knew Ron Baker and Luigi Grande were such talented vocalists?! Thanks to them and to Andrew Knight for the entertainment.



As with any event, we had a few lessons learned that we would need to get right for next time. Technology is great until it is not – so deeply sorry to those of you who planned to call in and were prevented from connecting by problems on our end. Apologies to Rick Luebbers, CHAA President – we had planned for Rick to address the group and announce the new CHAA Legacy Gift Fund, which will provide scholarships and fund projects related to our CH2M HILL disciplines and technologies. As the event unfolded, it became clear that the situation just did not lend itself to any kind of speech. The image below explains the mission of the CHAA Legacy Gift Fund.

We did score a home run with our Backpack Buddies charity event on Sunday morning. Many thanks to Janet Prevor for coordinating this part of the weekend. Between the cash contributions and the one hundred backpacks we put together, we provided a \$1000 value to the Loudoun County Food Pantry for children challenged by food insecurity. Many thanks to attendees who joined in to make this happen.




Our Friday reception was attended by forty-seven guests and our brunch on Sunday hosted thirty-eight. We will be rethinking these to make sure everyone's time is well-spent. Golf on Friday was a good time, despite the rain, with 9 holes successfully played.



Financially, CHAA Treasurer Scott Truster reported good news. After paying all invoices for the three events, we were able to contribute \$1,600 to the CHAA fund that supports similar regional reunions and \$2,500 to the CHAA Legacy Gift Fund. This was great news and music to our ears.

MISSION: Establish/administer the Legacy Gift Fund, raising funds and awarding scholarships and grants.



Key considerations :

- Extending CH2M HILL's legacy by fostering technical excellence, professional conduct and ethical practices.
- Providing financial support to aspiring college students in academic programs that align with CH2M HILL's historic disciplines and services – 3-4 Scholarships per year.
- Providing financial grants for worthy environmental projects that make the world a better place – 1 Grant per year

We know many of you took pictures and want to provide a working link for you to share your photos. Here are the instructions to do so. Click the link below to get started.

[Photos - Google Drive](#)

Our final note is a plea – please join the CH2M HILL Alumni Association. As the image to the left describes, it is an organization of folks just like all of you who enjoyed our NER events, and it continues to marshal the talents of our colleagues to make the world a better place. Annual dues are a nominal \$20 and many of us opt for the

five-year membership of \$100. Additional contributions to either the CHAA or to the new CHAA Legacy Gift Fund are most welcomed and wholeheartedly encouraged. Click these links to learn more and join or contribute.

www.ch2mhillalumni.org

[CH2M HILL LEGACY FUND SINGLE DONATION](#)

Again, thanks to everyone for making the NER Gathering and Celebration a happy and successful weekend. See you again at another CHAA fun time!

Best wishes always,

Dick Bedard and Deanne Fauchoux

**CH2M HILL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION:
Keeping the Legacy Alive**

CH2M HILL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (CHAA):

- Serve Our Members: Past, Present, and Future
- Support Members' Fellowship and Service with a Renewed Emphasis on Regional and Local Opportunities
- Recognize "Pay-it-Forward" Activities
- Collaborate with Jacobs as Opportunities Arise
- Create a Legacy Gift Fund to Significantly Expand the Long-term Impact of CH2M HILL's Commitment to Making the World a Better Place

**CH2M HILL
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

*Living the Legacy of CH2MHILL
through Fellowship, Service &
Engineering Advocacy*